

Ronald M. Winterton proposes the following substitute bill:

**Airborne Chemicals Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ronald M. Winterton**

House Sponsor:

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill addresses the release of airborne chemicals.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms;
- prohibits the release of chemicals or substances from an aircraft for the purpose of solar geoengineering;
- provides a means for the public to submit information regarding suspected solar geoengineering;
- requires the Department of Transportation to report credible instances of suspected solar geoengineering to the Utah Attorney General; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**72-10-120**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 140

ENACTS:

**72-10-134**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **72-10-120** is amended to read:

**72-10-120 . Violations -- Penalty.**

29 [A] Except as otherwise provided in this part, a person who fails to comply with the  
30 requirements of or violates any provision of this part is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

31 Section 2. Section **72-10-134** is enacted to read:

32 **72-10-134 . Restrictions on release of chemicals for solar geoengineering --**  
33 **Criminal penalty.**

34 (1) As used in this section:

35 (a)(i) "Solar geoengineering" means the modification of the composition, behavior, or  
36 dynamics of the Earth's atmosphere by solar radiation management.

37 (ii) "Solar geoengineering" does not include activities described in Title 73, Chapter  
38 15, Modification of Weather.

39 (b) "Solar radiation management" means the release, injection, or dispersing of  
40 chemicals to artificially reduce the amount of solar radiation reaching the Earth's  
41 lower atmosphere or surface.

42 (2)(a) It is unlawful for an owner or operator of an aircraft to use or authorize the use of  
43 the aircraft in this state with the intent to cause solar geoengineering.

44 (b) A violation of Subsection (2)(a) is a third degree felony.

45 (3) The department shall:

46 (a) provide a means for a member of the public to electronically submit information  
47 regarding suspected solar geoengineering activity; and

48 (b) report a credible instance of suspected solar geoengineering activity to the Office of  
49 the Attorney General.

50 (4) This section does not create for an airport operator:

51 (a) an obligation to report or monitor solar geoengineering activities; or

52 (b) liability in relation to an aircraft using an airport for solar geoengineering activities.

53 Section 3. **Effective Date.**

54 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.